

Lawmakers Ask Army for Transparency, Accountability

Washington, DC – Today, U.S. Senators Tom Harkin (D-IA), Dick Durbin (D-IL), Mark Kirk (R-IL), and Chuck Grassley (R-IA), Congressmen Dave Loebsack (D-IA-02) and Congressman Bobby Schilling (R-IL-17) joined Congressman Bruce Braley (D-IA-01) in continuing to push for substantive answers to questions surrounding the future of the Rock Island Arsenal from General Ann Dunwoody, Commanding General of the Army Materiel Command (AMC).

Following the letter authored yesterday by Braley and supported by the entire Rock Island region's congressional delegation, the lawmakers today reiterated the need for substantive answers to questions they have raised surrounding the jobs and workload at Rock Island's Joint Manufacturing and Technology Center (JMTC); locating the Expeditionary Contracting Command (ECC) in Huntsville, Alabama away from the Army Sustainment Command (ASC); efforts to establish capabilities to perform work at Picatinny that has historically been done at Rock Island; and rumors of another round of base closures.

"We are deeply concerned that closing the JMTC is a potential approach being considered... (and) cannot understand how this is a course of action that will provide the needed costsavings. We do, however, understand how it would negatively impact our national security and we find that to be unacceptable," the group wrote to Secretary of the Army John McHugh and General Ann Dunwoody, the Commanding General of the Army Materiel Command that oversees the JMTC's operations.